Application of

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Al Pilcher

Serial No.

: 09/852,928

Filed

: May 10, 2001

Title

: METHOD OF PROVIDING AN INVENTORY OF DIGITAL

IMAGES AND PRODUCT

Docket

: GOW 0083 PA/40329.101

Examiner

: Yogesh C. Garg

Art Unit

: 3625

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, on

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Reg. No.

Kristina E. Swanson

September 7, 2004.

Sir:

SUBMISSION OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

A claim for priority under 35 USC §119 was previously made with respect to Canadian Application No. 2,308,830, filed May 12, 2000. A certified copy of that application is enclosed to perfect the claim of priority.

> Respectfully submitted, **DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP**

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Certification

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This is to certify that the documents attrached hereto and identified below are the copies of the documents on file in the Patent Office.

Specification and Drawings, as originally filed, with Application for Patent Serial No: 2,308,830, on May 12,2000, by DIGITAL GUARD CORPORATION, assignee of Al Pilcher, for "Process and Product for Providing Easily Accessible Digital Images".

Agent certificateur/Certifying Officer

April 20, 2001





Process and Product for Providing Easily accessible Digital Images

In many situations there is a need:

- to provide an easy way to view an unlimited number of images quickly
- utilizing the advantages of digital technology to provide individual images
- having the ability to store the digitally recorded information for a long period of time CD ROM minimum shelf life 75 years

A number of businesses videotape the contents of rooms for future reference. They have used video cameras using 8 mm or VHS tapes.

Disadvantages:

- short shelf life
- problem with creating your list because of fast-forwarding, rewinding and pausing
- difficult to access a certain image quickly
- difficult to print a hard copy on a printer

The advantages of the present invention include:

- ability to get to any images in a matter of seconds
- durable, compact, long-lasting medium
- images can be seen without pausing or distortion
- easy to print off a hard copy

The present invention may utilize the following file structure:

- the core of the file structure will create a list of buildings and/or rooms and/or collections to display for quick, easy access
- clicking on a desired room and/or collection shows one row of three small images across and as many rows as required
- clicking on the desired small image will show the enlargement of that image for closer detailed inspection

The present invention may have a number of applications.

Residential Application:

Stage 1: Recording Phase

- using a digital camera storing the images on a short term medium (e.g. 3.5 floppies, flashcards, memory sticks, palm pilot**, etc.) going from room to room, take as many images as required opening up all drawers, closets, cupboards, etc.

Stage 2: Copy/Delete Phase

- transfer all the digital images from the short term storage medium onto the hard drive

- during this transfer, the core file structure is created rooms are stored as folders on the hard drive inside each folder are all the large-sized images of the rooms as well as another folder. Inside this folder are all the small images that are identical to the large-sized images. These small images are used to create the three-image row.
- During the transfer, each image is labelled according to its room's name e.g. Master Bedroom 002.
- When transfer of images to the hard drive is complete, images on the short-term storage medium are deleted

Stage 3: Builder

- software that converts the folders and all their contents to a readily viewable format

Stage 4: Security

- customer inputs personal access code (PIN) to encrypt all relevant files

Stage 5: Storage

- all folders and images and encryption software transferred to reliable storage medium, either burned onto a CD ROM or a secured central server

Stage 6: Final Delete Phase

- delete all images, images, files and data of any nature of the customer's property stored on the hard drive

Commercial Application

Stage 1: Recording Phase

- same as residential package but allows the ability of going from building to building.

Stage 2: Copy/Delete Phase

- same as residential package but allows the ability for the core file structure starting off with the building folders. Starts off with buildings, then rooms within the building then three small images per row then ending up with large image for closer details.

Stages 3 - 6 are the same as residential

Collection Application

Stage 1: Recording Phase

- using a digital camera storing the images on a short term medium (e.g. 3.5 floppies, flashcards, memory sticks, palm pilot**, etc.). Categorizing each collection.

Stage 2: Copy/Delete Phase

- transfer all the digital images from the short term storage medium onto the hard drive
- during this transfer, the core file structure is created categorizes are stored as folders on
 the hard drive inside each folder are all the large-sized images as well as another folder.
 Inside this folder are all the small images that are identical to the large-sized images.
 These small images are used to create the three-image row.
- During the transfer, each image is labeled according to its categories name e.g. Collection One 002.
- When transfer of images to the hard drive is complete, images on the short-term storage medium are deleted

Stages 3 - 6 are the same as residential

Estate Deluxe Application

Stage 1 - 3 same as residential

Stage 4: Entering Text

- Entering text to each image that is required.

Stage 5: Security, Stage 6: Storage and Stage 7: Final Delete Phase

- same as residential

Other - Stages can be modify to be used in event planning, retail demand, and other applications.

Overview
Why on CD-ROM
Service Includes
Pricing
Benefits

Overview

Digital Guard Corporation is a company that has capitalized on recent technological advances that provides total digital photography as a means for recording items for insurance claim purposes, at a very affordable price.

The service is performed completely on site. Before leaving the site the Digital Guard representative will present an encrypted CD-ROM on which the pictures can be viewed in an organized manner, room by room with Digital Guard's software.

The software is superior to others, giving the best of both worlds - a complete mass-inventory system of all contents plus the ability to find a picture of any item in a matter of seconds. Should you ever need to file an insurance claim after a burglary, theft, fire, flood or storm, you have the means to view the room of your choice and identify exactly what was lost. This will help you settle your claim quickly and efficiently, but most importantly, you will have the peace of mind to know that nothing will be overlooked or forgotten.

Unlike a video camera where you must fast forward to see a particular room, with Digital Guard software you can get to any room in seconds. All images can be seen without pausing or distortion, and with the use of a computer, you have the option to print off a hard copy of any item that is required.

Digital Guard takes security very seriously. All Digital Guard representatives undergo a thorough security check and are bonded. At the end of the session, a legal warranty is signed stating that all files have been deleted from the representative's possession. The encrypted CD-ROM contains the only remaining copies. This encryption requires only the owner's PIN number to access the pictures.

Why on CD-ROM

One can isolate a portion of the picture and enlarge it for closer inspection

Encryption allows only you with the correct password to read the CD-ROM

CD-ROMs are a proven, durable, compact medium

75 year shelf life

One does not have to own a personal computer. The CD-ROM can be taken to your insurance broker's office or to a friendly outlet that provides a service to use their computers.

Service Includes

Everything performed onsite

As many pictures as required (minimum 250)

Storage on an encrypted CD-ROM, (requires a PIN number to access pictures)

A signed Warranty guaranteeing all relative pictures, images, files and data are deleted for total security

A bonded representative performing the service

A record for sentimental value to reminisce in the future

The opportunity to update new possessions on the original CD-ROM

Pricing

Basic Package

\$85 - includes unlimited number of pictures in the household on an encrypted CD-ROM

Options

- A- \$15 second encrypted CD-ROM
- B- \$25 Garage, shed, outside view
- C- \$25 -documents (will, receipts) credit cards
- D- \$25 Home based business

Update Package

\$45 – using the original CD-ROM

Deluxe Package

\$375 – Includes basic package with relevant options (A,B,C,D above) plus detailed description of <u>each</u> picture i.e. serial numbers, dates of purchases, history ...

Business Package

Call for estimate

(P.S.T. & G.S.T. extra)

Benefits

An up-to-date inventory of your household or business belongings

Precise identification of what was lost (most people cannot recall all the items accumulated over years)

Quick and efficient insurance claim settlement

No one really expects to lose furniture or other belongings, but such events do occur. If disaster struck your home or business, this service will allow you to be able to report exactly what you lost to the police or to your insurance adjuster

CA 02308830 2000-05-12

Corporate Profile

Digital Guard Corporation is a registered federal incorporated company that has been in Ottawa since 1999. Our primary focus is to provide an affordable service to customers. Whether to a residential, a business or an organization, Digital Guard presents the ability to have the utmost confidence to recollect all lost or destroyed items while filing for an insurance claim. We believe that, without a detailed method for recording possessions, the possibility of forgetting certain items is very high. Hence the creation of Digital Guard.

Capitalizing on recent technological advances, Digital Guard provides total digital photography as a means for recording items for insurance claim purposes. The service is performed completely on site, and an encrypted CD-ROM is supplied before the Digital Guard representative leaves. This provides the customer a complete mass-inventory of all contents, and with the Digital Guard software, allows the ability to view any picture in a desired room in a matter of seconds. Should you ever need to file an insurance claim, you have the means of identifying exactly what was lost. This will help settle the claim quickly and efficiently, but most importantly, allow the peace of mind to know that nothing will be overlooked nor forgotten.

Security is taken very seriously at Digital Guard. All representatives undergo a thorough security check and are bonded. At the end of the session, a legal warranty is signed stating that all files have been deleted from the representative's possession. The encrypted CD-ROM contains the only remaining copies. This encryption requires only the owner's personal PIN number to access the pictures.

Digital Guard is a proud member of the following organizations:

OCIBA - Ottawa-Carleton Insurance Brokers Association

OCA — Ontario Camping Association Commercial Member

We invite you to learn more about Digital Guard services by viewing the <u>Service & Demo</u> section. Or, if you prefer, <u>e-mail</u> us and we will send you an information package by e-mail or mail.

Thank you for your interest in Digital Guard.

Custom Services

Whatever your digital photo needs are (no job is too big or too small), Digital Guard can get the task accomplished. Possibilities:

sales on eBay

family portraits

pictures of seasonal changes / special holidays / a much loved garden etc. allows you to reminisce in the future about certain seasons (e.g. an ice storm, a particularly colourful autumn) and events (e.g. Hallowe'en, holiday seasons)

pictures to supply for your web page

Contact Digital Guard with your idea today!

Residential

Description

Digital Guard Corporation is a company that has capitalized on recent technological advances that provides total digital photography as a means for recording items for insurance claim purposes, at a very affordable price.

The service is performed completely on site, and an encrypted CD-ROM providing a complete mass inventory of all contents is supplied before the Digital Guard representative leaves. With the Digital Guard software, one can view any picture in any room in a matter of seconds. Should you ever need to file an insurance claim after a burglary, theft, fire, flood or storm... here is the means of identifying exactly what was lost. This will help settle your claim quickly and efficiently, but most importantly, you will have the peace of mind of knowing that nothing has been overlooked nor forgotten.

This service is superior to all others, offering the best of both worlds - a complete mass inventory system of all contents plus the ability to find a picture of any item in a matter of seconds. Unlike a video camera where you must fast forward to see a particular room, with Digital Guard software you can get to any room in seconds. All images can be seen without pausing or distortion, and with the use of a computer, you have the option to print off a hard copy of any specific item. One does not have to own a personal computer as the CD-ROM can be taken to your insurance broker's office or to a friendly outlet that provides a service to use their computers. CD-ROMs have a shelf life of 75 years and are a proven, durable and compact medium on which to store pictures.

Digital Guard takes security very seriously. All Digital Guard representatives undergo a thorough security check and are bonded. At the end of the session, a legal warranty is signed stating that all files have been deleted from the representative's possession. The encrypted CD-ROM contains the only remaining copies. This encryption requires only the owner's personal PIN number to access the pictures.

No one really expects to lose furniture or other belongings, but such events do occur. If disaster struck your home, this service will allow you to be able to report exactly what you lost to the police or to your insurance adjuster

Services Include

Everything performed onsite

An up-to-date inventory of your household belongings

As many pictures as required (minimum 250)

An encrypted CD-ROM, (requires a personal PIN number to access pictures) is presented before the representative leaves

A signed Warranty guaranteeing all relative pictures, images, files and data are deleted for total security

A bonded representative performing the service

The opportunity to update new possessions at any time on the original CD-ROM *Added Bonus*: A record for sentimental value to reminisce in the future. Certain items may not have a monetary value, but now there is a record for safe keeping

Pricing

Basic Package - \$85

This package includes an unlimited number of pictures in the household on an encrypted CD-ROM

Options for the basic package

- A \$15 Second encrypted CD-ROM
- B \$25 Garage, shed, outside view
- C \$25 Documents (will, receipts) credit cards
- D \$25 Home based business

Update Package - \$45

This package is designed to quickly update a household on an annual or semi annual basis or whenever the service is required using the original CD-ROM.

Deluxe Package - \$375

This package is an extension of the basic Package. With all the relevant options that are applicable (A, B, C, D above), this service allows the ability to describe each picture with a detailed description of any information that is required i.e. serial numbers, dates of purchases, history ... This service is performed completely on site with no time restrictions.

P.S.T. & G.S.T applicable



Welcome to Digital Guard

With Digital Guard software, pictureview version 2.0, you have the ability to view your home room by room. Your home has 11 rooms, with a total of 64 pictures.

On the left is a list of your rooms. To view a specific room, click on the name of the room i.e. *kitchen*. Then on the right, the *kitchen* pictures (thumbprints) will appear. These thumbprints will allow you to scroll quickly through your collection. To enlarge a picture for clearer details, click on the thumbprint.

With the services of Digital Guard, you will have the peace of mind of being able to recall all of your personal possessions collected over the years.

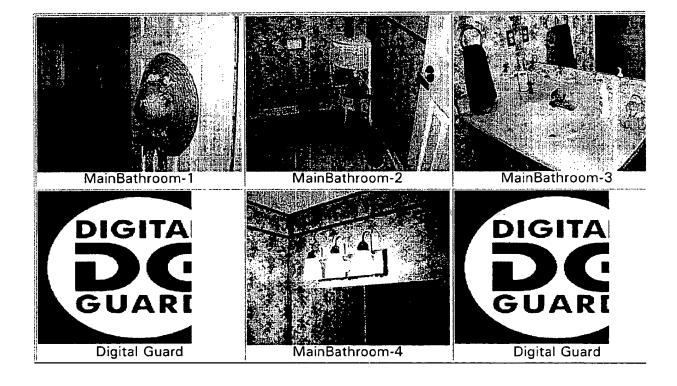
Thank you for using Digital Guard.

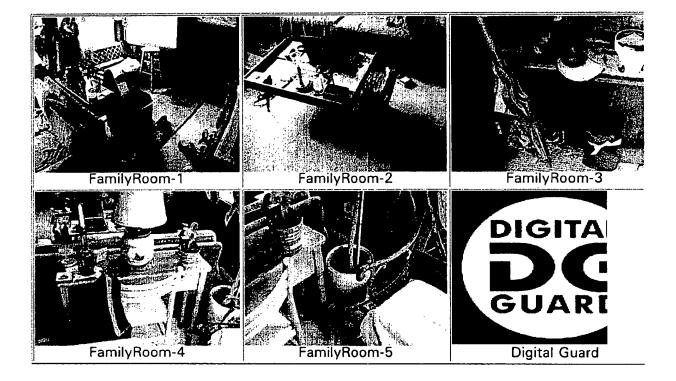
Select a room below to view the pictures.

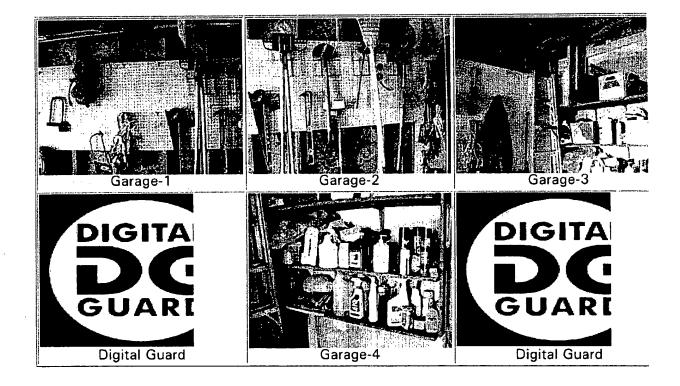
Welcome Page

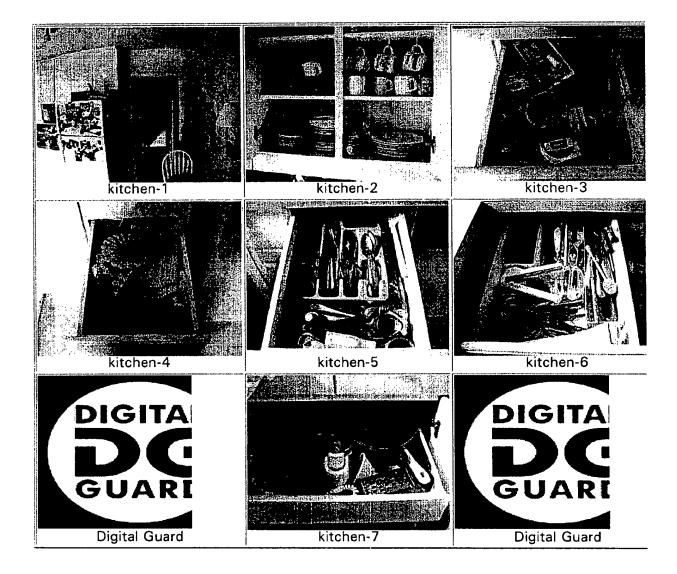
Total Pictures 64

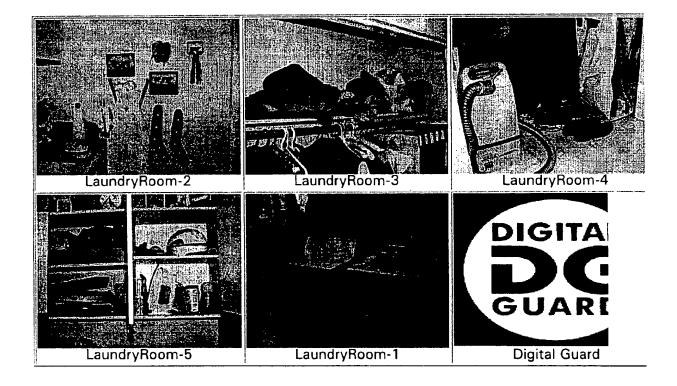
- MainBathroom
- FamilyRoom
- Garage
- kitchen
- LaundryRoom
- LivingRoom
- DiningRoom
- MainFoyer
- MasterBedroom
- RecRoom
- ThirdBedroom











Commercial

Description

Digital Guard Corporation is a company that has capitalized on recent technological advances that provides total digital photography as a means for recording items for insurance claim purposes, at a very affordable price.

The commercial service has two different options – the multi building service and the single building service. The multi building service allows a company to have multiple buildings on the same CD-ROM. With Digital Guard software, any picture, in any room, from any building can be viewed in a matter of seconds. The single building service allows any picture, in any room to be viewed in a matter of seconds.

Both services are performed completely on site with two encrypted CD-ROMs, each providing a complete mass inventory of all contents being supplied before the Digital Guard representative leaves. Should you ever need to file an insurance claim after a burglary, theft, fire, flood or storm... there is the means of identifying exactly what was lost. This will help settle the claim quickly and efficiently, but most importantly, allow the peace of mind of knowing that nothing will be overlooked nor forgotten.

This service is superior to all others, giving the best of both worlds - a complete mass inventory system of all contents plus the ability to search out a specific picture in a matter of seconds. Unlike a video camera where you must fast forward to see a particular room, with Digital Guard software you can get to any room in seconds. All images can be seen without pausing or distortion, and with the use of a computer, you have the option to print off a hard copy of any specific or required item. CD-ROMs have a shelf life of 75 years and are a proven, durable and compact medium on which to store pictures.

Digital Guard takes security very seriously. All Digital Guard representatives undergo a thorough security check and are bonded. At the end of the session, a legal warranty is

signed stating that all files have been deleted from the representative's possession. The

encrypted CD-ROM contains the only remaining copies. This encryption requires an original PIN number to access the pictures.

No one really expects to file an insurance claim, but such events do occur. If disaster struck your business, this service will allow you to be able to report exactly what you lost to the police or to your insurance adjuster

Service Includes

Everything performed onsite

Two encrypted CD-ROMs, (access to pictures by original PIN number) is presented before the representative leaves

As many pictures taken as required to record all possessions

A signed Warranty guaranteeing all relative pictures, images, files and data are deleted for total security

A bonded representative performing the service

The opportunity to update new possessions at any time on the original CD-ROM's

Added Bonus: A record for sentimental value to reminisce in the future. Certain items may not have a monetary value, but now there is a record for safe keeping

Pricing

Depending on the size and time to complete the service. Call for estimate.

CA 02308830 2000-05-12

Events

Description

Put your next event on the web! Add a splash to your web pages with pictures from your next event. Digital Guard can put your business event, social event, community event, or sporting event on-line in full colour quickly and easily, at a very affordable cost.

Pricing

Call for estimate

Retail Demand

Description

Give your retail store a competitive edge on the web. Digital Guard can digitally record items of your inventory and integrate it into your web site to create a weekly demand for your web-base customers.

Allow your web site to draw customers into your store on a weekly bases. Digital Guard can provide this service at a very affordable price. Each week, post new items that you want to promote or move. Tell your customers about this service as an added-value service you are offering.

This service is performed completely on site and the representative will photograph up to 40 pictures and upload the pictures with Digital Guard's software to your web site, all within a one-hour period.

Pricing - \$50/wk

This price includes 40 pictures of your choice converted into the Digital Guard software and then uploaded from your store, all within a one-hour period.

 Should you ever need to file an insurance claim after a burglary, theft, fire, flood or storm... a household inventory is an invaluable document.

personal belongings will help to: An up-to-date inventory of your household furnishings and

belongs and your personal needs Determine the value of your

Identify exactly what was

*r*our living room, make a com

plete list of all its contents.

items you have missed...

Now, check how many

Try this test. While out of

accumulated over recall all the items

 Settle your insurance claim quickly and

efficiently

References upon request

FOR INSURANCE CLAIM

PURPOSES AT AN

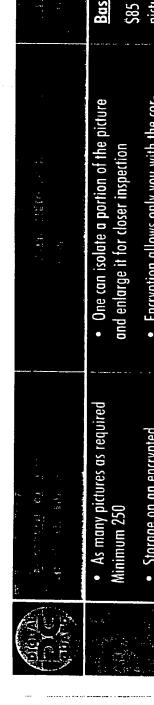
AFFORDABLE

PRICE.

A DIGITAL RECORD

lost (most people cannot the years)

what you lost to the police or to your home or business, would you be able to report exactly belongings, but such events do occur. If disaster struck to lose furniture or other your insurance adjuster? No one really expects



- Storage on an encrypted CD-ROM, (requires a PIN number to access pictures)
- A signed Warranty guaranteeing all relative pictures, images, files and data are deleted for total security

75 year shelf life

- A bonded representative will perform the service
 - A record for sentimental value to reminisce in the future
- The opportunity to update new possessions on the original CD-ROM

Digital Guard

Encryption allows only you with the correct password to read the CD-ROM

 CD-ROMs are a proven, durable, compact medium

NOTE: One does not have to own a personal computer. The CD-ROM can be taken to your insurance broker's office or to a friendly outlet that provides a service to use their computers.

Basic Package

\$85 — includes unlimited number of pictures in the household on an encrypted CD-ROM

Options

A- \$15 — second encrypted CD-ROM B- \$25 — Garage, shed, outside view

C- \$25 — documents (will, receipts) credit cards

D- \$25 — Home based business

Update Package

\$45 — using the original CD-ROA

Deluxe Package

\$375 — Includes basic package with relevant options (A,B,C,D above) pludetailed description of each picture is serial numbers, dates of purchases,

JÜsiness Package

Call for estimate

P.S.T. & G.S.T. extra



••• With Digital Guard software, you have the ability to view your home room by room, with the option to enlarge each picture for clearer details.



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